



# The



# Gazette

## GLOBE Student Fellows Travel to Nicaragua



## GLOBE Managers Fall 2017



## Enterprise Development and Impact Audits Team:

Jessica Benjamin, Lloyd Howell III, Brendan Mickalay, Michael Palacios, Jessica Sansaverino\*, Renee Schakron

### <u>Fínance, Budgets and Rísk</u> Assessment Team:

Maria Villon, Maria De Souza, Connor Hart, Aba Joseph, Sasha Khan, Jessica Vishnudat\*

### Marketing and Fundraising Team:

Colin Duffy, Michael Hatzopoulos, Maria Sefcik, Angela So\*, Rafael Sondon, Linda Wang

### <u>Technology and Communications</u> <u>Team:</u>

Keighla Exum, Samiha Huque, Ayana Ibarra\*, Thomas Shaker

\* Team Liaisons

## GLOBE Student Fellows Tríp to Nicaragua

Dr. Sama and the *GLOBE* Fellows visited Nicaragua from May 21st to May 29th. In the land of *lakes and volcanoes*, they visited four cities: Managua, Matagalpa, Granada, and San Juan del Sur. On the first day in the city of Managua, the Fellows visited the Fabretto Children's Foundation and its outreach organization Nica Hope. These NGOs are dedicated to serving children and families living in poverty to be empowered, within their communities, through education.

The Fellows traveled to Matagalpa to visit Rayo de Sol, an organization that works with the community to help mothers attain vocational training (ie. sewing, hairdressing, cooking) so that their children can grow up in a supportive and productive environment. These non-profit organizations realize the need to empower families, so that parents can send their children to school and earn an education that will help them break out of the chains of poverty.

The highlight of the trip was when the *GLOBE* Fellows were able to meet the borrowers, who shared their appreciation for *GLOBE* and thanked us for making such a difference in their lives. Most of the borrowers submitted applications for second and third time loans, which have all been approved this Fall semester! It was a delight for the Fellows to hear their heartfelt stories and learn about their accomplishments as a result of getting a loan from *GLOBE*.

The Fellows also visited sites such as Lake Managua, Mirador Laguna de Apoyo, Mombacho Volcano and Rainforest, and Masaya Volcano at night. The *GLOBE* Fellows trip would not have been possible without the help of the Daughters (and Ladies) of Charity.

## <u>Enterprise Development & Program Impact Audits Team</u>

#### **Internal Audit Goals**

- Conduct 3 internal audits to measure success of all teams
- Analyze teams for strengths and weaknesses
- Give finalized feedback to all teams

### External Audit Goals

- Modify post-loan borrower survey with an updated subsection to measure business growth and determine business impact in communities
- Distribute post-loan borrower surveys
- Create follow-up system to determine status of "poverty graduates"

### **Enterprise Development Goals**

Create business care package for borrowers

## <u>Finance</u>, <u>Budgets</u> and <u>Risk</u> Assessment Team

### Finance and Risk Goals

- Create risk profile by sorting through defaulted loans to identify common factors
- Research a new developing country for expanding *GLOBE* operations to prospective loan candidates' who have faced recent natural disasters (mainly West Caribbean or Southern Asia locations)
- Create automated loan tracking system through Microsoft Power BI
- Create risk grading checklist
- Review incoming loans with a 3-week turnaround for writing recommendations

### Marketing and Fundraising Team

### **Fundraising/Event Coordination Goal:**

- Crowdfunding campaign. Goal: \$4,000
- Mid-terms Study Care Package Sales. *Goal:* \$300
- Treat for Change and Halloween Bake Sale. *Goal: \$500*
- Promotional Item Sale. Goal: \$200
- Fabretto Fundraiser. Goal: \$200
- Restaurant Proceeds event. Goal: \$100
- Final Presentation Raffle. Goal: \$200
- Total Goal: \$5900

### Marketing/Awareness Goal:

- Organize and promote all events including the GLOBE Appreciation Dinner
- Create new **GLOBE** posters
- Launch #TakeASpin Awareness Mini-events around campus

### <u>Technology and Communications</u> <u>Team</u>

#### **Social Media Goals:**

- **Facebook:** Increase reach by 15% from last semester; Increase "Likes" from 2,200 to 2,300; Choose 3 posts to be featured as Facebook ads
- **Instagram:** Increase followers by 25% (120 new followers) by posting 3-4 times per week
- **Twitter:** Increase followers by 15% (70 new follower) by posting 5 times per week
- **Snapchat:** Create custom filters for events
- **YouTube:** Create one animated video about **GLOBE** and one promotional video
- Get GLOBE content shared by other campus organizations

## We, the Young Cítízens of the World: GLOBE Vísits the UN

By: Angela So

To be the voice for the cries of the poor is not just a job, but a social duty. It is one that Father Guillermo Campuzano, otherwise known as 'Memo', undertakes with great passion. He represents the Congregation of the Mission at the United Nations, where he invited this semester's *GLOBE* managers to visit so we can learn more about the UN.

As we all first gathered into Father Memo's meeting room before venturing off on a tour, we spoke about the injustice that resonated with us the most. We realized that it was incredibly difficult to choose just one. We saw that this is heavily reflected in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are a hefty set of 17 goals to end poverty, protect our planet, and ensure prosperity for all. We also saw that many of these goals were privileges that we had in our daily lives, such as good health and quality education, reminding us of what we have in life, as we often focus on what we do not have.

Leaving Father Memo's office had most of us deep in thought: "How can we help contribute to solving these global injustices?" First, we recognized that we are already in the right direction by being **GLOBE** managers! We are students who manage a microfinance organization to provide sustainability for people living in poverty, and to empower them with personal responsibility for paying back loans. Second, while walking through the hallways of the UN, we were reminded that we cannot achieve these goals alone. Just as all the 193 member states come together to help reach the SDGs, **GLOBE** must reach out to the community to attain our goals of poverty alleviation. Last, we were reminded that it is the passion to help our fellow brothers and sisters around the world that must fuel us. It is our duty to protect each other to the best of our abilities. In our short time spent with Father Memo at the UN, we were refreshed with a wave of humility and it only provided more energy to not just be better **GLOBE** managers, but to be better citizens of the world.



**GLOBE** Managers hosted its first mid-terms event selling study care packages. We raised \$325.50, exceeding the Marketing team's goal!



**GLOBE** Managers hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Treat for Change event alongside with a Halloween Day Bake Sale. We raised \$569.51, exceeding the goal of \$500! Our lovely **GLOBE** manager Ayana Ibarra single-handedly counted all the coins received (both US and foreign)!



**GLOBE** held a table at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Vincentian Chair of Social Justice Conference, and posed for this photo with University President, Dr. Conrado "Bobby" Gempesaw.



**GLOBE** organized its 6<sup>th</sup> GiveCampus crowd funding campaign, #GLOBEbreaksthechain.

## GLOBE Appreciation Dinner

At this year's 7<sup>th</sup> annual appreciation event, the Fall 2017 *GLOBE* managers gave thanks to all those who have aided the program throughout the past semesters. The program would be nothing if it were not for the donors, supporters, and faculty members who play a pivotal role in helping *GLOBE* managers fight abject poverty throughout the world.

At the Appreciation Dinner, the marketing team was able to get all desserts generously donated from Delisch Bakery, two blocks away from the St. John's campus and owned by St. John's alum, Stephanie Delisch. We had our first ever Fabretto Holiday sale, featuring handmade items such as pine needle ornaments, Christmas tree ornaments, pine baskets and trivets, macramé bracelets, and painted wooden crosses. All items were in high demand at the dinner and the success of this sale has shown the possibilities of future collaborations with Fabretto to host holiday sales.

GLOBE Fellows Evan Dittig and Natali Macuil presented on the 2017 GLOBE Fellows Trip to Nicaragua, sharing their once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They expressed their great appreciation to GLOBE and to its supporters who made the trip happen. They also expressed gratitude for being given the opportunity to meet borrowers who have been directly impacted and have benefited from the program. Following the presentation, GLOBE managers Angela So and Ayanna Ibarra announced GLOBE's 5th crowd funding campaign on GiveCampus. This semester's theme for the campaign is # GLOBEbreaksthechain.

The event concluded with a **GLOBE** Bingo game hosted by **GLOBE** managers Rafael Sondon and Michael Hatzopoulos. In the first round, Father Griffin had won 5 raffle tickets for the semiannual **GLOBE** Final presentations raffle drawing. In the second round, Victoria Shoaf, accounting professor and **GLOBE** steering committee member, also won 5 raffle tickets.

## Alumní Corner

William Alexander GLOBE Manager Spring 2016

"The poor themselves can create a poverty-free world. All we have to do is to free them from the chains that we have put around them!"

Muhammad Yunus



Take a moment to unplug yourself from reality. Detach yourself from the luxuries of smart-phones, wireless internet and television – the things we often take for granted. Dare to travel to a town on the other side of the world. On an island so remote, no photographer would dare to tread. To the outside world, the people who walk this land remain faceless names, but they are people, just like you and me. As the days go by, they dream of a better world; a world where their children could be free from the chains that rob them from good health, education, and opportunity. They are rich in hope, creativity, and ambition, but poor in resources. One day, they met the Daughters of Charity, a group of women on a mission to help them make their dreams a reality. And so, the Daughters introduced an idea that could save them and their community for generations to come. You probably guessed it by now – a loan from this organization called *GLOBE*. This changed everything. So, our borrowers formed co-operative societies (seriously, they had groups of 4-5 with assigned roles and everything), drafted their business plans and had an eager group of students and faculty agree to loan them the tools they needed.

In the spirit of entrepreneurship, they grew their businesses and repaid their loans. From the fruits of their harvest, they planted seeds in their community and granted even more loans to several others in need. The impact we witnessed was incredible. The small loans we granted were multiplied in more ways than a currency exchange ever could. Homes were built,

shops were rebuilt, families were reunited, and lives were transformed. You're reading about this – imagine seeing them present their progress; hearing their voices; seeing the delight on their faces. One loan at a time, we actually changed lives. Indeed, *GLOBE* breaks the chain of poverty, but it creates a new chain reaction of opportunities, linked by the helping hands of each person that heeds the call.

With *GLOBE*, I was able to go far beyond the four walls of the classroom. As the liaison of the Finance team, I had the privilege of reviewing loans directly. Each loan was an experience; each borrower was unique. Immersed in their stories, I felt like I knew them. They spoke many different languages, but I understood them (with the help of some friendly translators of course). As I burned the midnight oil, I thought of Olive Cerro, waking up at 3AM to prepare meals for her store. As an incoming **GLOBE** Fellow, I thought of our borrowers in the Philippines, who were "excited and very eager to welcome [us] and listen to their American Idols." Their struggle fueled my energy; their potential drove my ambition. One of the best things I gained from *GLOBE* was a greater appreciation for my own God-given gifts and how to leverage them for the good of others. The research, analysis, and presentation skills were simply icing on the cake. As college students, we are a privileged few that receive an education that millions would love to have.

My hope is that, by pursing programs like *GLOBE*, several others would follow Mark Batterson's words: "When God blesses you financially, don't raise your standard of *living*, raise your standard of *giving*."

# THANK YOU for your continuous support of GLOBE







